



VOTE-BY-MAIL PROCESS EXPLAINED

Marion County, FL

REQUESTS AND TRACKING

Only the Voter or their family member/designee can make the request.



It is illegal to offer or accept any benefit in exchange for distributing, ordering, requesting, collecting, delivering, or otherwise physically possessing more than two vote-by-mail ballots per election.

Vote-by-mail ballots can be tracked from time the request is made to when it is returned and counted:

www.VoteMarion.Gov/TrackMyBallot

PROCESSING AND VERIFICATION

The signature on each vote-by-mail ballot is matched against the signature on the voter's record to verify the identity.



Once the ballot is accepted, the voter's record is marked as voted, preventing from voting twice in the same election.

A minuscule number of vote-by-mail ballots are rejected; the majority due to the signature being completely missing!

Processed ballots are sorted by precinct, counted, verified and reconciled, then securely stored for canvassing.

CANVASSING AND TABULATION

Vote-by-mail ballots are counted FIRST, beginning about 22 days prior to the election.



The Canvassing Board (a county judge, county commissioner, and the Supervisor of Elections) and elections personnel publicly open and count accepted ballots.

Ballots are opened in a fashion that maintains voter secrecy and the total precinct counts are verified and reconciled.

Results are securely stored and released by 7:30 p.m. Election Day. The first set of published results contain the total of all accepted vote-by-mail ballots.

AUDIT AND RETENTION

A public manual audit is conducted after each election where ballots are hand-counted in randomly selected precincts and races to ensure the machine count is equivalent to the human count.

Voting equipment accuracy has remained at 100%.

All returned vote-by-mail ballots and envelopes are boxed, labeled, and securely stored for 12-22 months after certification.

Ballots are professionally destroyed after the retention period.

